

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Prior to paragraph number [0008], replace the header "BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" with --SUMMARY--, and insert the following paragraph:

--Certain aspects commensurate in scope with the disclosed embodiments are set forth below. It should be understood that these aspects are presented merely to provide the reader with a brief summary of certain forms the invention might take and these aspects are not intended to limit the scope of the invention. Indeed, the invention may encompass a variety of aspects that may not be set forth below.--

Prior to paragraph number [0025], replace the header "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION" with --DETAILED INVENTION--, and insert the following paragraph:

--One or more specific embodiments of the present invention will be described below. In an effort to provide a concise description of these embodiments, not all features of an actual implementation are described in the specification. It should be appreciated that in the development of any such actual implementation, as in any engineering or design project, numerous implementation-specific decisions must be made to achieve the developers' specific goals, such as compliance with system-related and business-related constraints, which may vary from one implementation to another. Moreover, it should be appreciated that such a development effort might be complex and time consuming, but would nevertheless be a routine undertaking of design, fabrication, and manufacture for those of ordinary skill having the benefit of this disclosure.-

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following:

[0026] Fig. 3 is a detailed view diagram of the bottom or airway side of the distal end of the device of Fig. 2. Fig. 3 shows the tube 100 ending at the dome 300. The dome has an aperture or opening 302 and a groove along its upper portion. The groove is configured to receive the inflation line 400. The inflation line 400 travels along the groove and meets connector 406, which is used to deliver air to inflate the cuff 200. The aperture has multiple lobes, preferably elongated. Defining the lobes are protrusions 303, 304, and

305 which separate them. One of the protrusions 303 is formed at the proximal end. This protrusion 303 comprises a flexible flap, preferably tongue-shaped, and larger than the other protrusions 304 and 305. The smaller protrusions 304 and 305 are preferably less flexible, or more rigid than the flap 303. The aperture 302 is shaped in this manner to help prevent the epiglottis's obstruction of the airway. In addition, the protrusions 303, 304 and 305 of the multi-lobed design (as opposed to the more common bars that fully extend across such an opening) allow the entry of other devices, (e.g., a bronchoscope or an endotracheal tube) into the airway passage. When such other devices are being entered into the airway passage, the flap bends 303 and pushes the epiglottis back enabling the effective insertion of the bronchoscope or other device into the airway. None of the protrusions 303, 304, and 305 extend fully across the airway opening. The protrusions 303, 304, and 305 may be integrally molded with the dome.